Maharashtra**:**

(i) Village near Kolhapur

(ii) Village near Pune for Gurukul

Bihar:

(i) Patharkathi

Development of tourism in tea garden areas in NER

2704. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received from NER particularly from State Government of Sikkim for the development of tourism in the tea garden areas of the region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No proposal has been received from NER including the State Government of Sikkim for the development of tourism in the tea garden areas of the region.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Tourism potential in Karnataka

2705. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka presents a huge tourism potential in varied hues, ranging from pilgrimage, beach, health and natural panoramic resorts;

(b) if so; whether this rich potential is under utilized on account of inadequate infrastructure and facilities and poor promotional efforts; and

(c) what efforts have been made by the Centre to tap this potential for boosting tourism sector in Karnataka, with particular reference to Mangalore and Dakshin Kannada District?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Development and promotion of tourist places/spots is primarily